Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for a computer system comprises:

opening a first file describing a first object in an object environment;

determining a reference for a second object, wherein the second object includes a first plurality of public attributes and a second plurality of private attributes;

receiving a second file describing the second object from a storage system; in response to the reference;

opening the second file describing the second object in the object environment;

determining a modified value for ~~an~~ a public attribute from the first plurality of public attributes for the second object; and

including in the first file the reference for the second object and the modified value for the public attribute;

wherein the second object is not stored in the first file; and

wherein values for the second plurality of private attributes cannot be modified by users of the first file.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the storage system ~~comprises one of the group~~ is selected from a group consisting of: network directory, asset management system, database management system.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 further comprising storing the first file including the reference to the second object and the modified value for the public attribute in the storage system.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising geometrically coupling the first object to the second object in the object environment.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2

wherein the first file includes a reference to a̲ third object and a override value for an̶ a public attribute of the third object; and

wherein the method further comprises:

determining the reference for the third object in response to the first file;

receiving a third file describing the third object from the storage system, in response to the reference to the third object;

opening the third file describing the third object in the object environment; and

modifying a value for the public attribute of the third object from a default value to the override value in response to the first file.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

opening a third file describing a third object in an object environment, wherein the third file includes a reference to the second object and includes a override value for the public attribute;

determining the reference for the second object in response to the third file;

receiving the second file describing the second object from the storage system; in response to the reference;

opening the second file describing the second object in the object environment; and

modifying the value for the public attribute from a default value to the override value in response to the third file.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

modifying the second file to include an additional public attribute of the second object;

reopening the first file describing the first object in the object environment;

determining the reference for the second object;

receiving the second file as modified describing the second object as modified
from the storage system; in response to the reference;

opening the second file as modified describing the second object as modified in
the object environment;

modifying a value for the additional <u>public</u> attribute of the second object in the
object environment; and

including in the first file the value for the additional <u>public</u> attribute.

8. (Currently amended) A computer system including an object environment
comprises:

a storage system configured to store a first file describing a first object and a
second file describing a second object, wherein the storage system is also configured to provide
the first file in response to a first reference and configured to provide the second file in response
to a second reference<u>, and wherein the second object includes a first plurality of public attributes
and a second plurality of private attributes</u>; and

a processor coupled to the storage system, wherein the processor is configured to
open the first file, wherein the processor is configured to determine the second reference in
response to the first file, wherein the processor is configured to determine[[d]] a value of ~~an~~ <u>a</u>
<u>public</u> attribute from <u>the first plurality of public attributes for</u> the second object in response to the
first file, wherein the processor is configured to provide the second reference to the storage
system, wherein the processor is configured to receive the second file from the storage system,
wherein the processor is configured to open the second file, and wherein the processor is
configured to override a default value of the <u>public</u> attribute from the second object with the
value;

wherein the second object is not stored in the first file<u>; and</u>

<u>wherein values for the second plurality of private attributes cannot be modified by</u>
<u>users of the first file</u>.

9. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 8 wherein the storage system ~~comprises one of the group~~ is selected from a group consisting of: network directory services, asset management system, database management system.

10. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 9

wherein the processor is also configured to modify the public attribute from the second object with a modified value; and

wherein the first file is modified to include the modified value.

11. (Original) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the processor is also configured to geometrically manipulate the first model and the second model.

12. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 9

wherein the storage system is also configured to store a third file describing a third object, and wherein the storage system is also configured to provide the third file in response to a third reference; and

wherein the processor is configured to determine the third reference in response to the first file, wherein the processor is configured to determined a value of ~~an~~ a public attribute from the third object in response to the first file, wherein the processor is configured to provide the third reference to the storage system, wherein the processor is configured to receive the third file from the storage system, wherein the processor is configured to open the third file, and wherein the processor is configured to override a default value of the public attribute from the third object with the value.

13. (Currently amended) The computer system of claim 9

wherein the processor is configured to determine another instance of the second reference in response to the first file, wherein the processor is configured to determined another instance of a value of ~~an~~ a public attribute from the second object in response to the first file, wherein the processor is configured to provide the second reference to the storage system, wherein the processor is configured to receive the second file from the storage system, wherein

the processor is configured to open another instance of the second file, and wherein the processor is configured to override a default value of the public attribute from the another instance of the third second object with the value.

14. (Currently amended) A computer program product for a computer system including a processor coupled to a server comprises

code that directs the processor to allow a user to create a first object in an object environment;

code that directs the processor to determine a reference to a second object in the server, wherein the second object includes a first plurality of public attributes and a second plurality of private attributes;

code that directs the processor to create an instance of the second object in the object environment;

code that directs the processor to determine a modified value for an a public attribute from the first plurality of public attributes for the second object; and

code that directs the processor to override a default value for the public attribute with the modified value;

wherein the public attribute of the second object stored in the server is not modified; and

wherein the codes reside on a tangible media; and

wherein values for the second plurality of private attributes cannot be modified by users of the first file.

15. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 14 wherein the server comprises one of the group is selected from a group consisting of: directory server, asset management server, database server.

16. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising:

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code that directs the processor to create a first file including the first object, the reference to the second object in the server, and the modified value for the <u>public</u> attribute; and

code that directs the processor to provide the first file to the server for storage;

wherein the first file excludes the second object.

17. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 14 further comprising:

code that directs the processor to create an additional instance of the second object in the object environment;

code that directs the processor to determine a modified value for ~~an~~ <u>a public</u> attribute from the <u>first</u> plurality of <u>public</u> attributes for the additional instance of the second object; and

code that directs the processor to override a default value for the <u>public</u> attribute for the additional instance of the second object with the modified value.

18. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the modified value for the <u>public</u> attribute for the instance of the second object and the modified value for the <u>public</u> attribute for the additional instance of the second object are different.

19. - 20. (Canceled)